Act 12
Temporary Closing

NII-CHAN, WENT THROUGH SO MUCH..
BECAUSE HE GOT INVOLVED WITH ME.
ONII-CHAN! NARUMI-, NIICHAN!
KATOU NARUMI !!
IT'S KATOU!
3

1ぱい
THAT'S NARUMI-NIICHAN !!
IT'S NII-CHAN!
SHIROGANE, WHAT'RE YOU DOING ?!
H-HEY, MASARU!
2

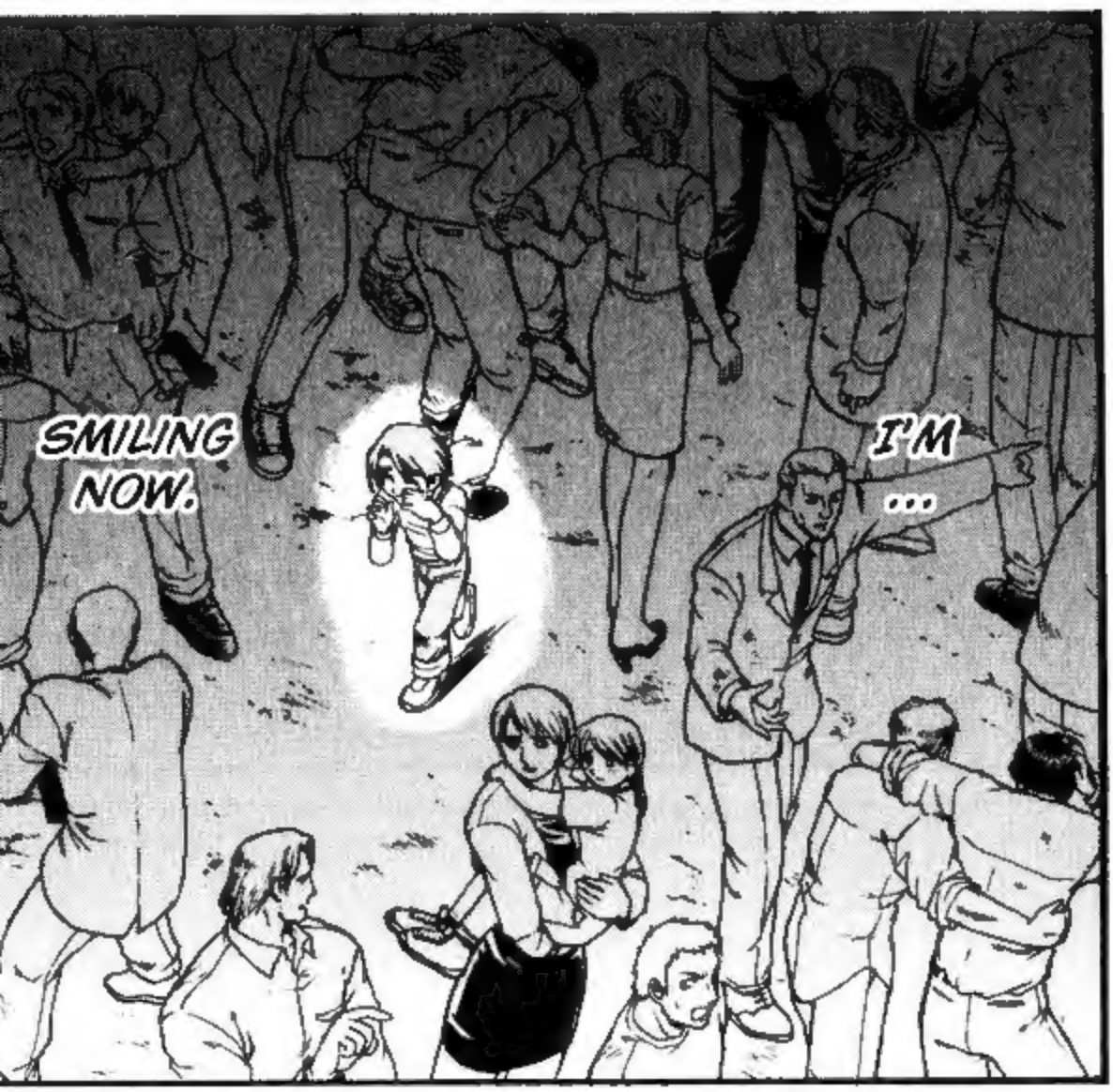
I WAS A TOTAL STRANGER ...
BUT, FOR MY SAKE, HE...

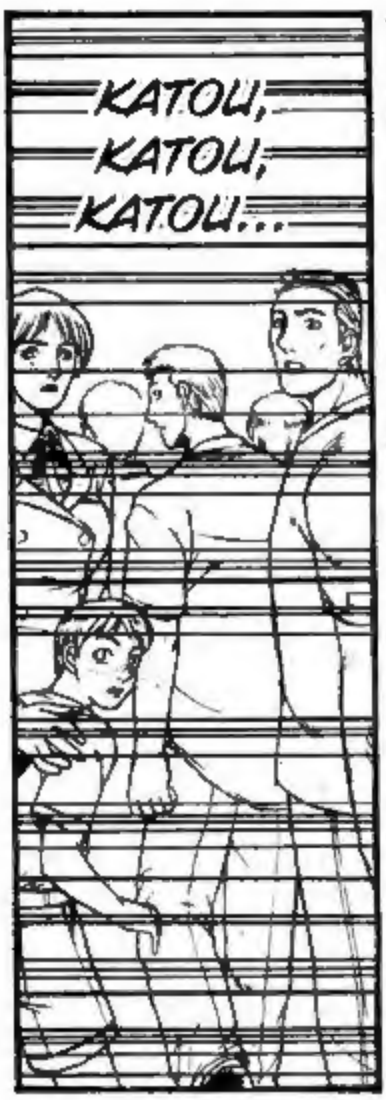
BUT...!
BUT ...
SO I...
I'M SURE HE HATES ME...

4

CRYING ANYMORE.
I'M NOT...

TO SMILE GENUINELY.
I'VE STARTED ...

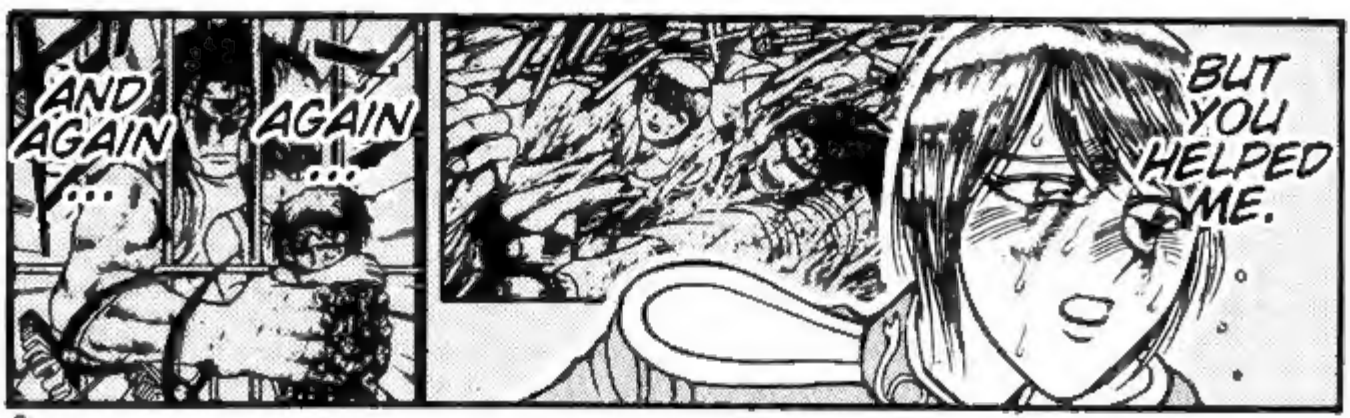

SMILING NOW.
I'M ...
NARUMI-NIICHAN...


KATOU, KATOU, KATOU...

KATOU!!
KATOU!

I TREATED YOU TERRIBLY...

I WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU.

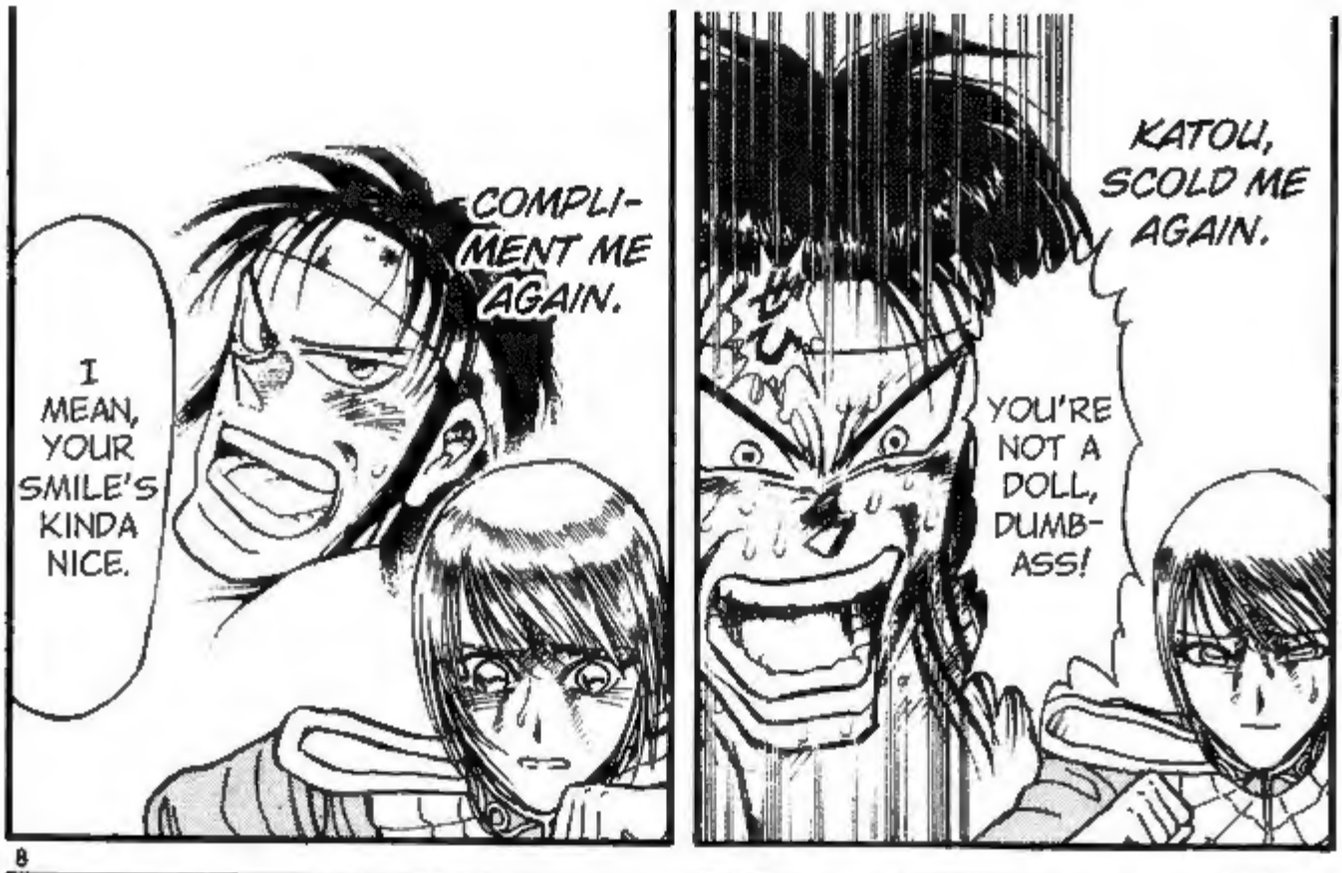

AND AGAIN...
AGAIN...
BUT YOU HELPED ME.

THAT'S WHY...!!
SMILE FOR YOU...
BACK THEN, I COULDN'T...
HU
HU
HU

THAT'S NOT THE REASON!!
NO SHIRO-GANE...

NO !!

LIFT UP THE CORNERS OF YOUR MOUTH AND SMILE.
SMILE, SHIROGANE.
TRUE HAPPINESS...
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN MY FROZEN EXISTENCE THAT I KNEW...
THE WARMTH OF THOSE ARMS...
AT THAT MOMENT...
YOUR WARMTH...



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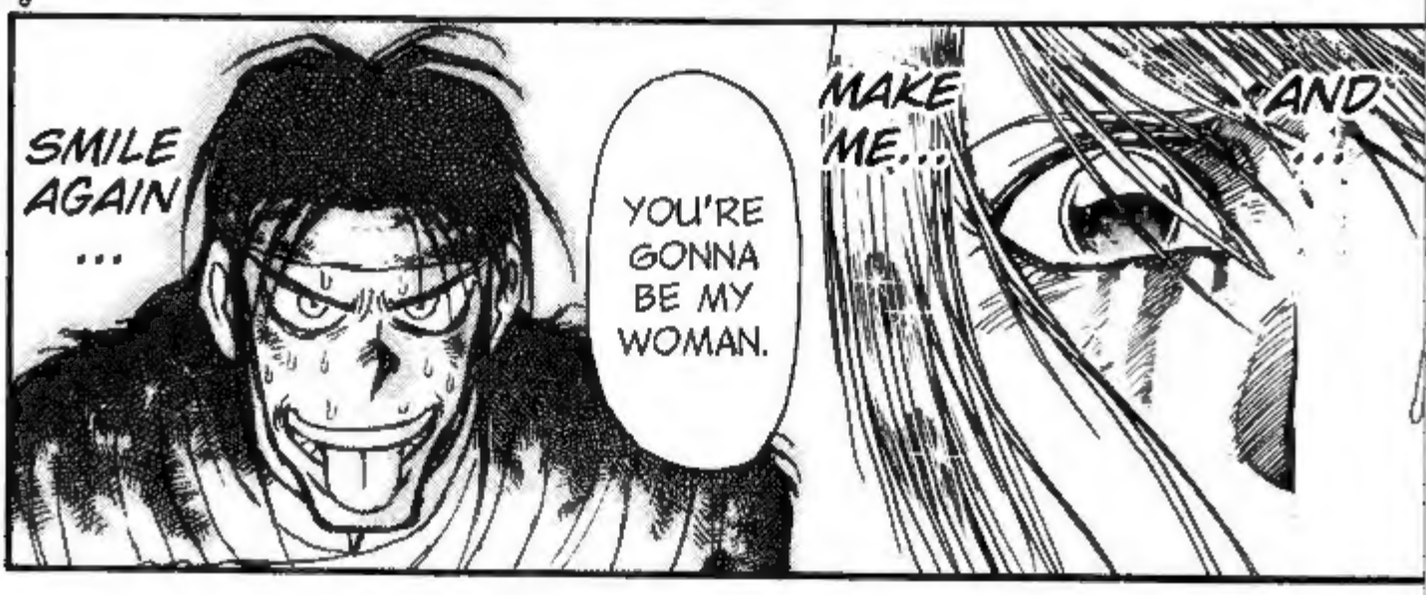
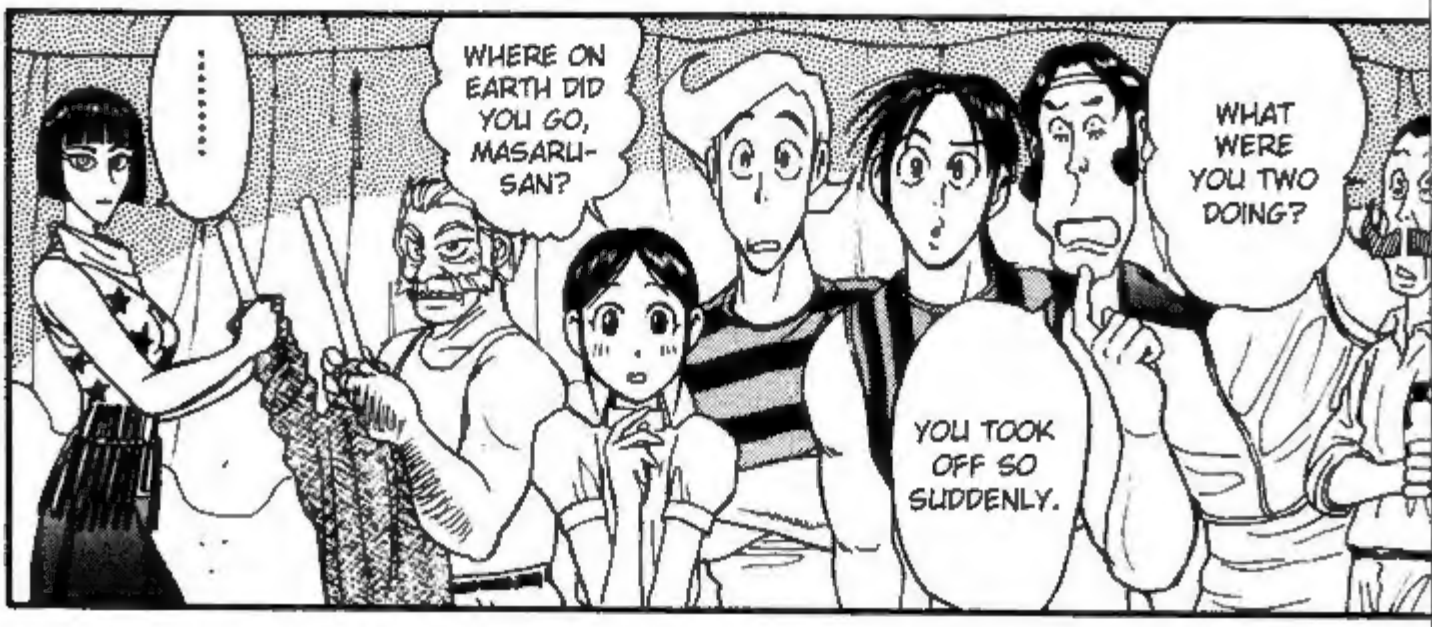


AGAIN...

HOLD ME...

NA
RU
MI
...!

ピーポー ピーポー
ウウウウウ


.....
WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GO, MASARU-SAN?
YOU TOOK OFF SO SUDDENLY.
WHAT WERE YOU TWO DOING?

...SO, DID YOU FIND THEM?

SAW SOME-BODY WE THOUGHT WE KNEW.
SHIRO-GANE AND I ...

WE MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN...
NO...

VILMA-SAN!
I'M NOT ALL THAT KEEN ON THIS...
YEAH, THIS ISN'T REALLY THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE FOR A SHOW ...
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET TO WORK HELPING THE INJURED.
OH, ALL RIGHT, LIESE.
No way! Do it yourself!
You're a man, aren't you? Go ask her about it!
Why us?

ヒューウー
仲町サーカス
ピポピポ

SHIROGANE ...

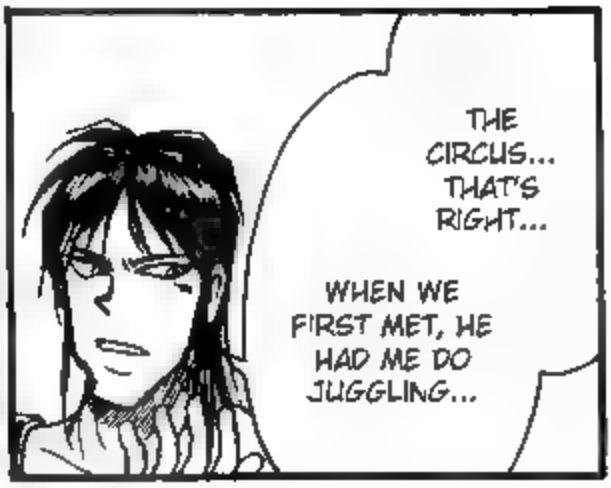
11

THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS...?

ウウ

THAT'S AWFUL CONSIDERATE OF YOU, LUCILLE.
IF THE AIRPLANE HAD COME DOWN CLOSER TO THE TENT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN...
A NUISANCE FOR THE PERFORMERS.
ウー
ウー
BEEN A WHILE SINCE I READ ANYTHING IN JAPANESE.
ピーポ
ボキュ
I KNOW HOW MUCH TROUBLE A SMALL TROUPE HAS PUTTING ON A SHOW.
I DID WORK IN A CIRCUS LONG AGO, AFTER ALL.
ウー
ウー
WELL, THAT TOO. BUT I MEANT THE PART ABOUT THE CIRCUS.
THAT I'M NOT DEAD?
THAT'S A SURPRISE!
12
I'LL TELL YOU THE REASON LATER.
THE MIDNIGHT CIRCUS... TO FIGHT THE AUTOMATA, SHIROGANE MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE IN THE CIRCUS.

GUY ...


THE CIRCUS... THAT'S RIGHT...
WHEN WE FIRST MET, HE HAD ME DO JUGGLING...

EVEN USING SWORDS MADE OF HIGH-DENSITY PLASTIC, THE PUPPETS ARE NEVER ABLE TO KILL US.
EVEN USING WIRE SAWS WITH CORDS MADE OF A SPECIAL NYLON, AND BLADES MADE OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMOND...
カラン
THIS STAKE IS MADE OF FINE CERAMICS.

BY SUCKING OUT ALL OF THE AQUA VITAE THAT FLOWS THROUGH THEIR BLOOD.
THE FIRST WAY IS ...

NARUMI, I WILL TELL YOU TWO WAYS TO KILL A SHIROGANE.
...!

WHEN THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH THEIR LIFE, AND THEIR DESIRE FOR VENGEANCE AGAINST THE ALTOMATA DISAPPEARS.
THAT IS... WHEN A SHIROGANE THINKS, "I'M HAPPY LIKE THIS."

AND THE SECOND ...?

GUY-CHRISTOPHE RECH, ENEMY OF WOMEN, IS NOT DEAD.
SO ...
SO THEN ...!!
DOES GUY SEEM LIKE A MAN WHO IS "SATISFIED" BY WOMEN AND ALCOHOL?
THAT SON OF A BITCH!
ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

ON OUR JOURNEY CHASING THE AUTOMATA, WE WILL SURELY MEET HIM AGAIN.
YES. WHICH IS WHY ...
WE WILL CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY.

WE MUST CONTINUE ON OUR JOURNEY, YOUNG MASTER...

hah...
SHIRO- GANE...
BUT ...!!
THE MAN WE LOOKED FOR TODAY MAY HAVE BEEN... NOTHING BUT AN ILLUSION.
HUH ...?

15

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW FAR APART WE ARE... HE WILL FIND US...
HE'S SUCH A MEDDLESOME PERSON THAT...

AS LONG AS WE KEEP LIVING...
BUT... IF BY SOME CHANCE HE IS STILL ALIVE...

IN LOVE WITH NARUMI-NIICHAN...
SHIRO-GANE IS...
WHER-EVER WE ARE ...
WHAT-EVER... WE'RE DOING...
I WISH I'D BEEN A CIRCUS CLOWN.
YEAH, ME TOO ...
AND WE'LL DEFINITELY MEET HIM AGAIN SOMEDAY.
YEAH. THAT'S RIGHT, SHIRO-GANE...
ON OUR JOURNEY WITH THE CIRCUS ...
WE'LL CON-TINUE ...

仲町サーカス
RIGHT, NARUMI-NIICHAN?!

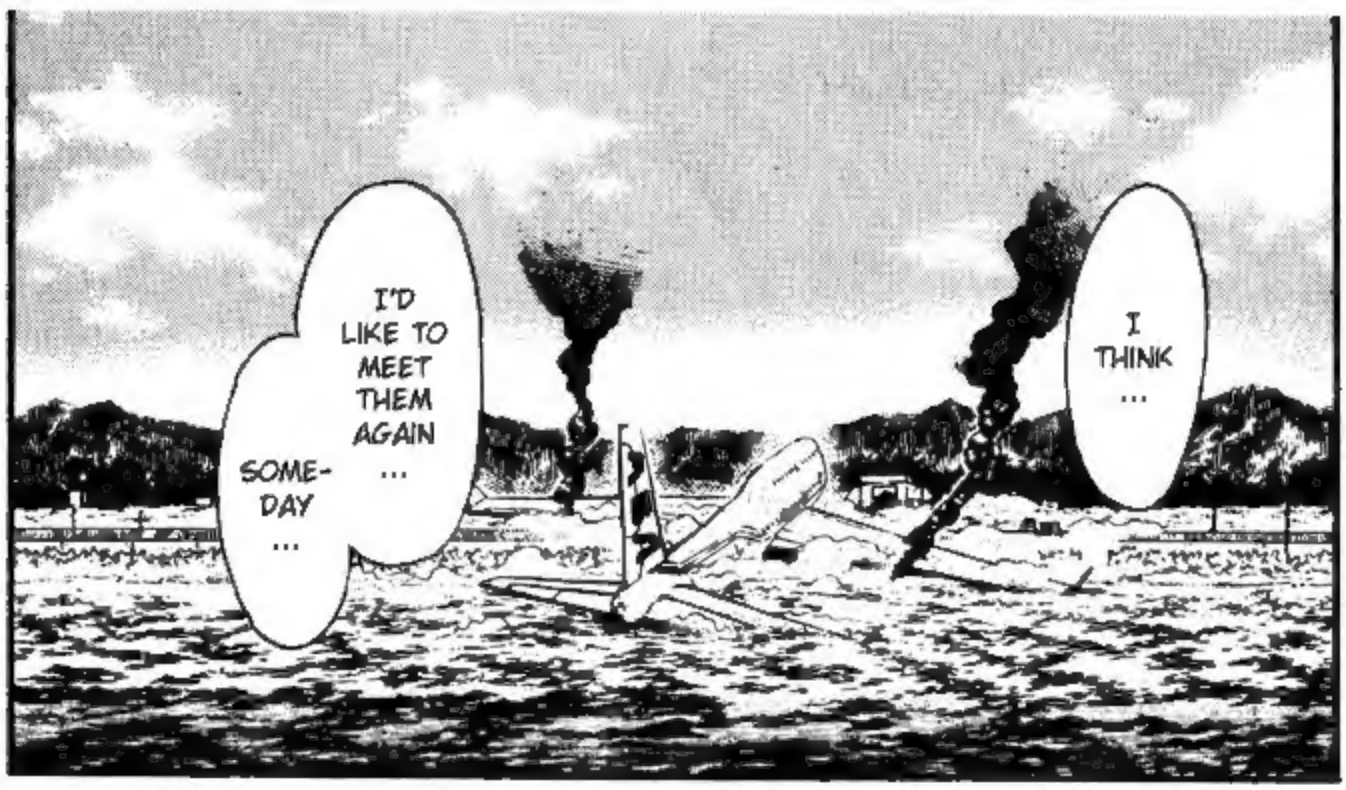
FELT LIKE SOMEONE WAS CALLING ME...

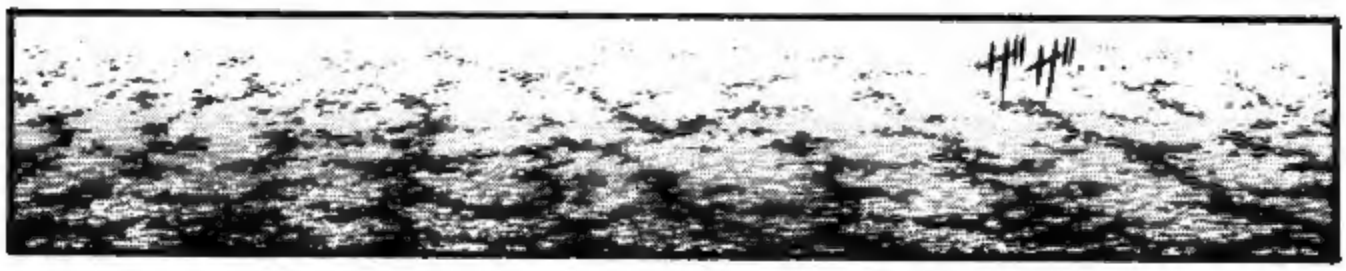
.....
WHAT IS IT, NARUMI?
NOTHIN'... JUST...

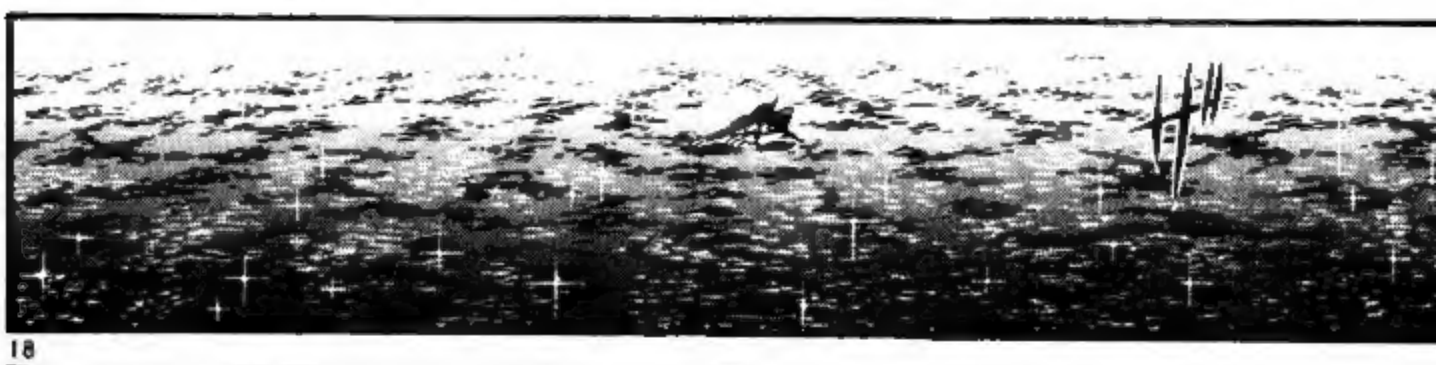
A LITTLE WHILE AGO WHEN THAT LAST DOLL ATTACKED THE PASSENGERS... IN ALL THE CONFUSION...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S VERY UNSETTLING TO SEE SOMEBODY SMILING FAINTLY OVER NO-THING!

...

THEY MUST HAVE BEEN BROTHER AND SISTER.
THERE WAS A KID AND A WOMAN FIGHTING BACK WITH A LOT OF GUTS.
I DIDN'T SEE THEIR FACES IN THE SMOKE, BUT...


I'D LIKE TO MEET THEM AGAIN ...
SOME-DAY ...
I THINK ...





ちゃ plunk
13°
からくりサーカス
Le Cirque de Karakuri
一時のからくりサーカス
一時閉幕

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

Previous scanlations were using the French release as a source, so some of the dialogue in flashbacks is slightly different than you'll remember it.
pp 13-14: The *hyuus* around Lucille's speech bubbles are the sound of the wind blowing through the hole in her neck.

Trust me, this chapter hurt me as much as it hurt you.

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.